amounting to Rs. 8.48 crores for the construction. For approval of these estimates, some details are awaited from the Delhi Administration. It is not possible to give the approximate date by which the building would be completed.

Custom duty on drugs

*397. SHRI M. P. KAUSHIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that customs duty on the inputs going into the production of essential drugs has been imposed at 141% and on finished bulk drugs at 100% and below;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and how such a move would help in achieving self-sufficiency in the drug industry;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government now propose to reduce customs duty on inputs going into the production of bulk drugs; and

(d) if so, when was such a proposal made and what is the present status thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Normal rate of custom duty on the drug intermediates is 141.5% *ad valorem* whereas the normal rate of custom duty on bulk drugs is 100% *ad valorem.*

(b) The difference is primarily due to levying of countervailing Duty on Intermediates. However drug intermediates which are exclusively used for the production of Bulk Drugs are levied concessional rate of custom duty which in some cases is substantially lower than the custom duty on Bulk Drugs. Only drug intermediates having multifarious uses are levied custom duty at 141.5%.

(c) and (d) Proposals that all inputs used by the drug industry should bear a lower duty than the rate levied on the end bulk product are being examined.

Study of Feasibility of connecting Pipelines of Oil and ONGC

*398. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER :

SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to the Unstarred Question 54 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st July, 1986 and state :

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Ltd. has since completed the study of feasibility of connecting the pipelines of the Oil India Ltd. and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the conclusions arrived at ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is expected that the report would be submitted in early December 1986.

Export commitments of polyester units

*399. Shri PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the polyester Units of Reliance, Orkays, JK Synthetics and others had given a commitment to Government before getting the import licences for capital goods that they would export the fabrics worth twice the amount of capital goods; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and how far they have fulfilled this commitment ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) M/s. Reliance, Orkays, J.K. Synthetics and